

THE ESSENCE OF VIETNAM

with

Relish Mama®

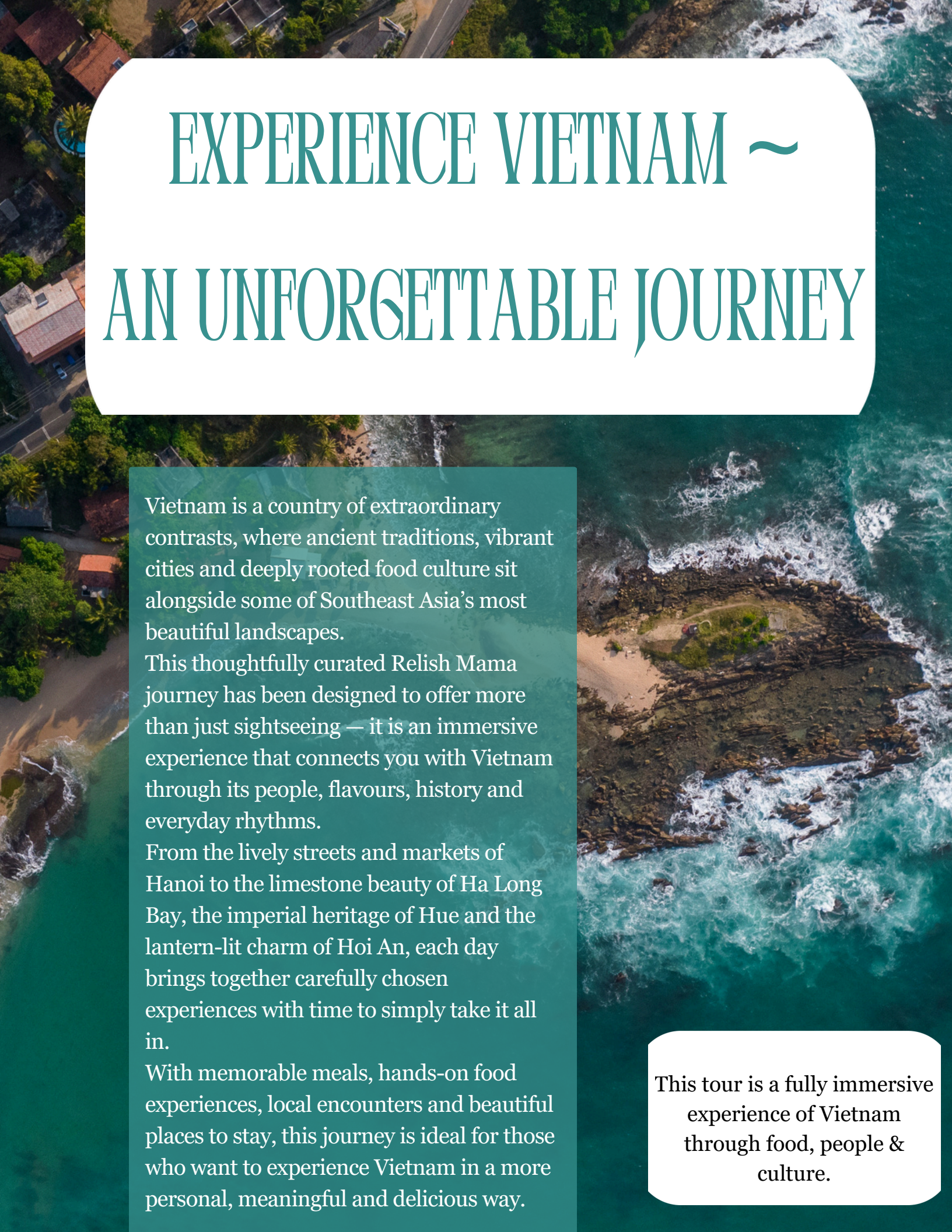
July 11 - 20, 2027

Discover the true essence & heart of Vietnam.

Intimate
group tour

Led by
Nellie Kerrison

An unforgettable
experience

An aerial photograph of a coastal town in Vietnam. The image shows a mix of traditional and modern buildings, lush greenery, and a sandy beach. The turquoise water of the sea meets the shore with white foam from the waves. The overall scene is vibrant and scenic.

EXPERIENCE VIETNAM ~ AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY

Vietnam is a country of extraordinary contrasts, where ancient traditions, vibrant cities and deeply rooted food culture sit alongside some of Southeast Asia's most beautiful landscapes.

This thoughtfully curated Relish Mama journey has been designed to offer more than just sightseeing — it is an immersive experience that connects you with Vietnam through its people, flavours, history and everyday rhythms.

From the lively streets and markets of Hanoi to the limestone beauty of Ha Long Bay, the imperial heritage of Hue and the lantern-lit charm of Hoi An, each day brings together carefully chosen experiences with time to simply take it all in.

With memorable meals, hands-on food experiences, local encounters and beautiful places to stay, this journey is ideal for those who want to experience Vietnam in a more personal, meaningful and delicious way.

This tour is a fully immersive experience of Vietnam through food, people & culture.

YOUR ITINERARY

From bustling Hanoi and the limestone beauty of Ha Long Bay to the imperial elegance of Hue and the lantern-lit charm of Hoi An, this journey has been thoughtfully designed to immerse you in the flavours, stories and spirit of Vietnam.

With memorable meals, hands-on food experiences and beautiful places to stay, this is Vietnam shared through food, people & culture.

HANOI

01

Arrival in Hanoi – Welcome to Vietnam

Arrive in Hanoi and transfer to our hotel, where you can settle in and take a little time to unwind after your journey.

This evening, we come together for our first dinner at Sen Tonkin, beginning our time in Vietnam over a beautiful Vietnamese meal and drinks.

It is a relaxed introduction to the journey ahead and our first chance to gather around the table as a group.

Overnight: Hanoi – May De Ville Corner Hotel

Meals: Dinner



HANOI

Old Hanoi, Street Food & Night Markets

02

Today we begin exploring the layers of Hanoi.

Visit the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first national university, before travelling through the atmospheric Old Quarter by cyclo. Continue past some of the city's most significant landmarks, including the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and the beautiful One Pillar Pagoda.

This evening is all about food. Wander through Hanoi's Old Quarter on a street-food experience, stopping for Vietnamese coffee and local favourites including pho ga and banh mi.

Finish among the energy of Dong Xuan Night Market and Hanoi's lively Beer Corner with a glass of local bia hoi.

Overnight: Hanoi

Meals: Breakfast, Street Food Dinner



HANOI

03

Village Life & Lunch with a Local Family

Travel beyond central Hanoi to Duong Lam Ancient Village, a remarkable traditional village with a history stretching back almost 1,200 years.

Walk its historic lanes and discover old laterite houses, temples and village life before sharing a traditional lunch with a local family.

The afternoon brings a visit to Mia Pagoda before returning to Hanoi, with the evening yours to enjoy at leisure.

Overnight: Hanoi

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



HA LONG / LAN HA BAY 04

Limestone Islands & Life on the Water

Leave Hanoi behind and journey towards the extraordinary landscapes of Ha Long and Lan Ha Bay.

Board our overnight cruise and settle in with a welcome drink before enjoying lunch as we sail among towering limestone formations and emerald waters.

Later, explore the peaceful surroundings by kayak before cruising towards our overnight anchorage.

As evening falls, join the ship's culinary team for a casual cooking demonstration followed by dinner onboard. Afterwards, relax beneath the stars, enjoy the sundeck or perhaps try your hand at squid fishing.

Overnight: Orchid Trendy Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



HUE

05

From the Bay to Imperial Hue

Begin the morning gently on the water, with the opportunity to join a sunrise Tai Chi session as breakfast is served.

Explore Trung Trang Cave on Cat Ba Island before returning to the boat for brunch and our final cruise through the bay.

After disembarking, travel back towards Hanoi Airport for our flight south to Hue.

On arrival, transfer to our hotel and enjoy dinner together.

Overnight: Hue – Indochine Palace

Meals: Breakfast, Light Snack, Dinner



HUE

06

Imperial Hue & A Twilight Food Adventure

Today is a wonderful immersion into Hue's history, food and everyday life. Explore the city by cyclo, passing local neighbourhoods and Dong Ba Market before walking through the magnificent Imperial Citadel.

Continue to Thien Mu Pagoda and then take to the Perfume River aboard a traditional dragon boat.

Lunch is something particularly special — a traditional Hue meal enjoyed in the historic former residence of Princess Ngoc Son.

As twilight arrives, head out again for one of the culinary highlights of the tour: a Vespa food adventure through Hue. Taste local favourites, learn to make banh nam and travel through the city as it comes alive at night. For anyone who prefers not to travel by Vespa, a private vehicle can be arranged.

Overnight: Hue

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Street Food Dinner



HOI AN 01

Across the Hai Van Pass to Hoi An

Today we travel one of Vietnam's most beautiful coastal routes.

Journey across the spectacular Hai Van Pass, stopping along the way to take in the scenery before continuing towards Hoi An.

After lunch and check-in, explore Hoi An's UNESCO-listed Ancient Town on foot.

Once one of Southeast Asia's great trading ports, Hoi An is filled with historic merchant houses, colourful markets, atmospheric laneways and its famous Japanese Covered Bridge.

The evening is free for you to wander the lantern-lit streets, browse the shops or settle in somewhere lovely for dinner.

Overnight: Hoi An – Allegro Hoi An

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



HOI AN 08

Village Life, Basket Boats & Vietnamese Cooking

Begin with a short bike ride and boat journey along the Thu Bon River before cycling through the peaceful countryside of Cam Kim Island and Tra Nhieu village.

Along the way, meet local families and learn about traditional rural life and the making of rice wine, rice noodles and rice paper.

Continue into the water coconut forest and experience Vietnam's distinctive round bamboo basket boats before enjoying lunch.

Later, food takes centre stage at the beautiful Red Bridge Cooking School. Visit Hoi An's market with your chef, cruise along the river to the school and wander through its herb garden before taking part in a hands-on Vietnamese cooking class.

Then, sit down together and enjoy what you have made.

Overnight: Hoi An

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



HOI
AN

09

From Farm to Table & A Farewell in Hoi An

This morning visit Thanh Dong Organic Farm, just outside Hoi An.

Spend time with local farmers and learn about their chemical-free growing methods, harvest vegetables and experience something of the daily rhythms of farm life.

Enjoy cassava and green tea and a traditional foot massage before returning to Hoi An.

The afternoon is yours — a lovely opportunity for last-minute shopping, a café, a massage or simply more time wandering the Old Town.

This evening, come together for our farewell dinner and celebrate the journey we have shared through Vietnam.

Overnight: Hoi An

Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner



Departure

10

Farewell Vietnam

After breakfast, it is time to say goodbye to Vietnam.

A group transfer will take guests from our Hoi An hotel to Da Nang Airport for onward flights.

We leave with memories of extraordinary food, beautiful landscapes, bustling cities, quieter villages and, most importantly, the people and experiences that have brought Vietnam to life along the way.

Meals: Breakfast



TRAVEL AT A GLANCE

Tour dates: 11 July – 20 July 2027

Arrival airport: Noi Bai International Airport, Hanoi, Vietnam (Airport code: HAN)

First night: Hanoi

Final night: Hoi An

Departure airport: Da Nang International Airport, Da Nang, Vietnam (Airport code: DAD)

The tour begins on 11 July 2027 in Hanoi. Most international guests will fly into Hanoi's Noi Bai International Airport.

The tour finishes after breakfast on 20 July 2027 in Hoi An. A group transfer to Da Nang International Airport is included. Transfers outside of group transfer can be arranged and quoted for.

Some guests may choose to arrive a day or two earlier to settle in before the tour begins. Optional pre-tour accommodation & transfers can be requested, subject to availability. You may also wish to stay somewhere independently.

Flights are not included in the tour price. Guests are welcome to book flights independently, or speak with our recommended travel consultant for assistance with flights, stopovers and additional travel arrangements.

Your Vietnam experience includes:

Accompanied by Culinary expert - Nellie Kerrison, plus local guides

9 nights premium accommodation:

- 3 nights – Hanoi, May De Ville Corner Hotel or similar
- 1 night – Ha Long / Lan Ha Bay, Orchid Trendy Cruise or similar
- 2 nights – Hue, Indochine Palace or similar
- 3 nights – Hoi An, Allegro Hoi An or similar

Meals:

- 9 breakfasts
- 5 lunches
- 7 dinners, including street-food experiences

Travel Dates:

11 July – 20 July 2027 (10 days / 9 nights)

Pricing

\$6,195 AUD pp twin share (excluding international flights) / Single Supplement \$1,295 AUD

A deposit of \$2,000 AUD per person secures your place on the tour. As we operate with a small group and confirm a number of arrangements in advance, this deposit is non-refundable. Final Balance is payable 11th April, 2027.

If, for unforeseen reasons, the tour is unable to proceed, all payments made will be refunded in full. Cancellations after final payment may result in up to 100% of the tour cost being non-refundable (please refer to our full Terms & Conditions for details). We strongly recommend travel insurance, upon booking for peace of mind.

Final balance is payable by 11 April 2027 and will be invoiced mid March 2027. Payment schedule plans are available upon request.

Inclusions:

- Meet & greet on arrival with traditional garlands
- Welcome dinner at Sen Tonkin with Vietnamese meal & drinks
- Visit to the Temple of Literature
- Hanoi Old Quarter cyclo experience, passing the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum & One Pillar Pagoda
- Hanoi Old Quarter street-food experience with Vietnamese coffee, pho ga & banh mi
- Dong Xuan Night Market & Hanoi Beer Corner with local bia hoi
- Visit to Duong Lam Ancient Village with traditional lunch with a local family
- Visit to Mia Pagoda
- Overnight cruise through Ha Long & Lan Ha Bay
- Kayaking experience in Ha Long / Lan Ha Bay
- Onboard cooking demonstration & dinner
- Opportunity to join a sunrise Tai Chi session
- Visit to Trung Trang Cave on Cat Ba Island
- Hue cyclo experience through local neighbourhoods & Dong Ba Market
- Walk through the Imperial Citadel
- Visit to Thien Mu Pagoda
- Perfume River dragon boat experience
- Traditional Hue lunch at the former residence of Princess Ngoc Son
- Vespa food adventure through Hue with banh nam experience
- Scenic journey across the Hai Van Pass
- Hoi An UNESCO-listed Ancient Town walking experience
- Bike ride & boat journey along the Thu Bon River
- Cycling through Cam Kim Island & Tra Nhieu village
- Local family encounters with rice wine, rice noodles & rice paper making
- Bamboo basket boat experience in the water coconut forest
- Red Bridge Cooking School market visit, river cruise & hands-on cooking class
- Visit to Thanh Dong Organic Farm
- Cassava, green tea & traditional foot massage
- Internal flight Hanoi–Hue
- Farewell dinner in Hoi An
- Accommodation at the specified hotels (or similar category), mentioned in the itinerary.
- Air-conditioned transport throughout the tour with an experienced driver and local guide.
- Selected beverages are included only at the selected/mentioned hosted experiences/dinners.
- Complimentary bottled water per guest each day

Trip Excludes:

International Airfares / Travel insurance / Visa / Any expenses of personal nature / Beverages outside of those included at select hosted experiences / personal snacks while travelling / any meals not listed / Tips for your dedicated tour team of driver, conductor & local guide / Transportation to any locations not specified in the program / Spa/Personal treatments – Payment directly by guests / Early check-in and late check-out / Early & late transfers.

Transfers:

This tour includes complimentary airport transfers.

- From Noi Bai International Airport, Hanoi (HAN), to our first night's accommodation in Hanoi on 11 July 2027.
- From our final accommodation in Hoi An to Da Nang International Airport (DAD), on 20 July 2027.

Guests arriving before 11 July, or departing after 20 July, may require additional transfer or accommodation arrangements. These can be discussed in advance and are subject to availability and additional costs.

An optional pre-tour night is available on request for guests wishing to arrive a day earlier and enjoy additional time to relax.

Guests are welcome to book their own flights independently. For those who would like assistance with flight routing, stopovers, ticketing or additional travel either side of the tour, we recommend contacting Rachel Visser from MTA Travel.

Rachel has been provided with our Relish Mama itinerary and travel notes, so she can assist with flight options that work well around the tour dates and arrangements.

Rachel Visser

rvisser@mtatravel.com.au

Baggage Allowance:

- Maximum of two pieces per person (one large suitcase and one hand-carry bag)

Kindly inform us in advance if additional luggage will be carried, so a suitable vehicle can be arranged at an additional cost.

Weather in July

July is a warm and tropical time to explore Vietnam, with weather varying across the different regions of the journey. Hanoi and Ha Long Bay are typically hot and humid, with a mix of sunshine and tropical showers, while Hue and Hoi An generally experience plenty of warm, sunny weather. Expect hot days, warm evenings and occasional rain along the way, so light, breathable clothing and a compact umbrella or rain jacket are recommended.

Hanoi

July is hot and humid in Hanoi, with daytime temperatures typically around 33°C to 34°C and evenings around 26°C to 27°C. Tropical showers are common at this time of year and can sometimes be heavy, though warm conditions continue throughout the day. Light, breathable clothing, sunscreen and a compact umbrella or rain jacket are recommended.

Ha Long / Lan Ha Bay

Temperatures generally sit around 30°C to 31°C during the day, with evenings around 26°C to 27°C. Conditions are warm and humid, with tropical showers common. Lightweight clothing and rain protection are useful, particularly for time spent on the water and outdoor activities.

Hue

Hue is particularly warm, with daytime temperatures often around 35°C to 36°C and evenings around 25°C. Conditions are generally hot and humid, so lightweight clothing, sunscreen, a hat and plenty of water are important for sightseeing and outdoor experiences. Occasional rain is also possible.

Hoi An

Hoi An is warm and sunny, with daytime temperatures typically around 34°C and evenings around 26°C. There is plenty of opportunity for outdoor exploring, although occasional showers can still occur. Light, breathable clothing, sunscreen and a hat are ideal for walking, cycling and time spent around the Old Town.

Travel Insurance:

Travel insurance is **COMPULSORY** and should be arranged when you pay your deposit for this tour. At a minimum, your policy must cover medical expenses, including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend a comprehensive policy that also includes personal liability, cancellation, curtailment, and loss of luggage or personal effects.

Health & Vaccinations

Travellers are responsible for obtaining appropriate medical and travel-health advice before travelling to Vietnam. We strongly recommend consulting your GP or a specialist travel-health clinic well in advance of departure, ideally at least 6–8 weeks before travel where possible.

Guests should ensure routine vaccinations are up to date and discuss whether any additional vaccinations or preventative medication are recommended for Vietnam based on their individual health, travel plans and activities.

Mosquito protection and careful food and water choices are also recommended.

E-Visa / Entry Requirements

Australian passport holders require an appropriate visa to enter Vietnam. Eligible travellers may apply online for a Vietnam e-Visa before departure.

Guests are responsible for ensuring the granted visa matches their individual travel arrangements and that all details match their passport exactly. We recommend carrying a printed copy of the visa approval document when travelling.

Entry and visa requirements can change, so guests should check current Vietnamese Government and Smartraveller advice before departure.

Passports:

Guests are responsible for ensuring they hold a valid passport with at least six months' validity beyond the end of their travel.

Current requirements - Visa, entry and health requirements can change. Guests are responsible for checking current government and airline requirements before departure.

WHATSAPP:

Nellie will create a WhatsApp group for us to communicate and share photos once we're in Vietnam.

Tipping:

Tips for accommodation, meals and included activities are covered. Tips for local guides are also covered by Relish Mama. If you wish to offer a small additional tip to anyone who has looked after you especially well, it is always appreciated. Tips for your dedicated tour team — driver and tour manager — are not included. As a guide, please allow approximately \$15 AUD per person, per day.

Vaccinations:

Please see page 16 for Health & Vaccinations. More information can also be found at: www.travelvax.com.au

Packing:

Nellie always shares a recommended packing list with guests as the trip approaches.

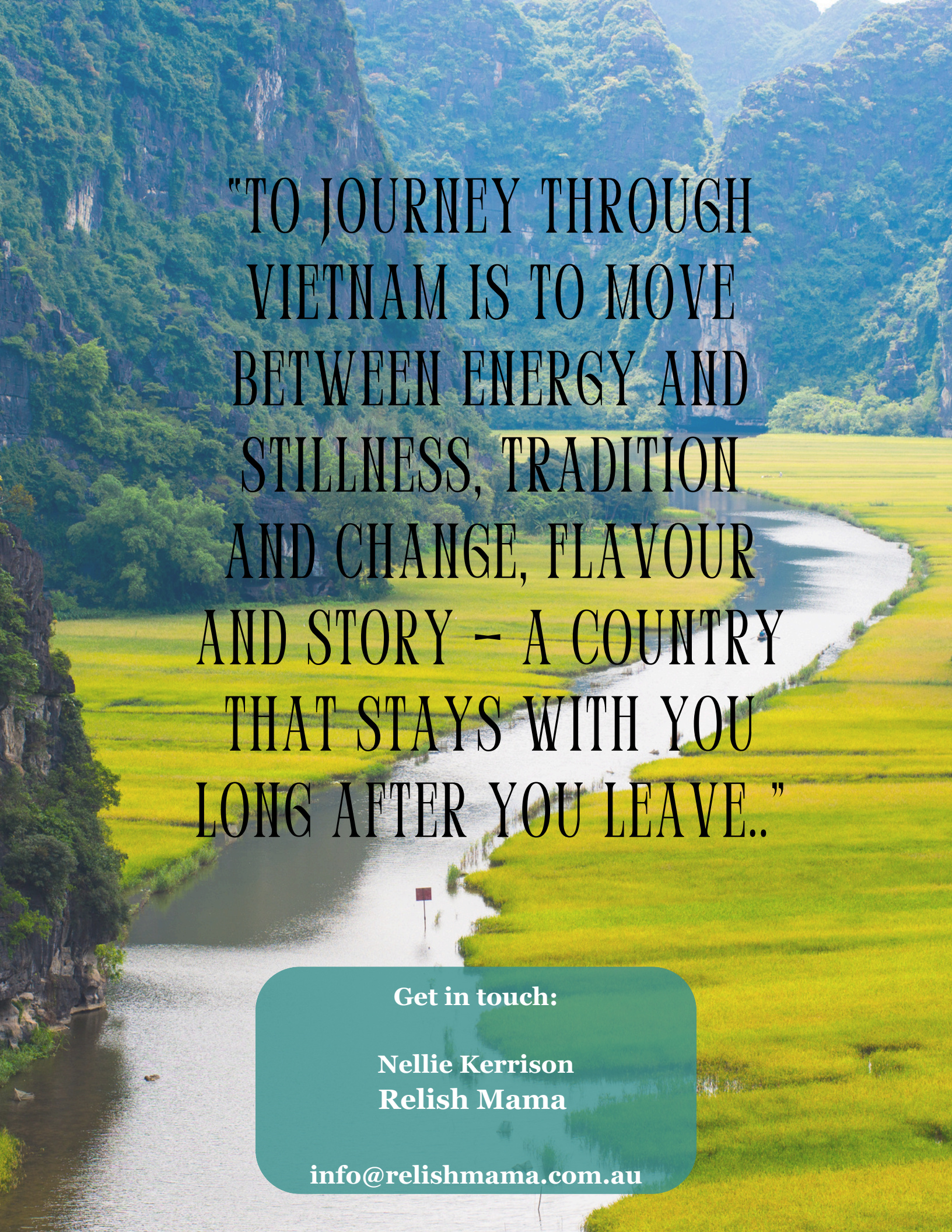
How to make a booking:

All bookings are subject to availability.

Please email your booking/enquiry to: info@relishmama.com.au

Booking forms are available on the Tours pages on the Relish Mama website, and you must complete a booking form to join the tour.

A deposit is required to secure your booking. The balance is payable by 11th April 2027, before departure, and will be invoiced in mid-March.



"TO JOURNEY THROUGH
VIETNAM IS TO MOVE
BETWEEN ENERGY AND
STILLNESS, TRADITION
AND CHANGE, FLAVOUR
AND STORY – A COUNTRY
THAT STAYS WITH YOU
LONG AFTER YOU LEAVE.."

Get in touch:

**Nellie Kerrison
Relish Mama**

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